UNAPPROVED PARTS NOTIFICATION

SUSPECTED UNAPPROVED PARTS PROGRAM OFFICE, AVR-20 45005 AVIATION DRIVE, SUITE 214 DULLES, VA 20166-7541



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UPNs are posted on the internet at http://www.faa.gov/avr/sups.htm

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AFFECTED PART

Door and window seals typically installed on, but not limited to, Cessna, Piper, Beech, and Mooney aircraft.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this notification is to advise all aircraft owners, operators, maintenance organizations, manufacturers, and parts distributors regarding door and window seals produced without Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) production approval and offered for sale for installation on type-certificated aircraft.

BACKGROUND

Information received during a FAA Suspected Unapproved Part (SUP) investigation indicated that Aero Improvements, 1807 McKinley Avenue, LaVerne, CA 91750, had produced door and window seals without a FAA production approval. Parts discovered during the SUP investigation included the following:

Inflatable Door Seals (P/N: various)
Side Door Seals (SDS) (P/N: various)
Baggage Door Seals (P/N: various)
Window Seals (P/N: various)

The door seals were sold between January 1997 and December 1999. The total number of door seals sold during this time period is approximately 564. Aero Improvements instructed customers that the door seals could be installed with a FAA field approval using FAA Form 337, Major Repair and Alteration.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Regulations require that type-certificated products conform to the type design. Aircraft owners, operators, manufacturers, maintenance organizations, and aircraft parts distributors are encouraged to inspect their aircraft and/or aircraft parts inventory for parts manufactured by Aero Improvements. Appropriate action should be taken if any of the referenced parts have been installed on aircraft. If found in existing aircraft parts inventory, it is recommended that the referenced door and window seals be quarantined to prevent installation on aircraft until a determination can be made regarding each part's eligibility for installation.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information may be obtained from the FAA Manufacturing Inspection District Office (MIDO) listed below. The FAA would appreciate any information concerning the discovery of the above-referenced unapproved parts from any source, the means used to identify the source, and the actions taken to remove the parts from aircraft and/or stock.

This notice originated from the FAA Los Angeles MIDO, 3960 Paramount Blvd., Lakewood, CA 90712-4137, telephone (562) 627-5291, fax (562) 627-5293; and was published through the FAA Suspected Unapproved Parts Program Office, AVR-20, telephone (703) 661-0581, fax (703) 661-0113.